

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated December 28, 2009 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 20-25, 27, 28 and 57 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3,20-22,24 and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,608,556, issued to Koma et al. (hereafter “Koma”), in view of US Patent No. 5,574,582, issued to Takeda et al. (hereafter “Takeda”), US Patent No. 5,798,056, issued to Nakamura et al. (hereafter “Nakamura”) and Applicant’s submitted prior art, Koma et al., figure 5, “No-Rub Multi-Domain TFT Using Surrounding-Electrode Method”, SID, 1995, pages 869-872. Claims 23 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koma, in view of Takeda, Nakamura, and Applicant’s submitted prior art, Koma et al., figure 5, “No-Rub Multi-Domain TFT Using Surrounding-Electrode Method”, SID, 1995, pages 869-872, further in view of US Patent No. 6,141,074, issued to Bos et al. (hereafter “Bos”). Claims 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koma, in view of Takeda, Nakamura, and Applicant’s submitted prior art, Koma et al., figure 5, “No-Rub Multi-Domain TFT Using Surrounding-Electrode Method”, SID, 1995, pages 869-872, further in view of US Patent No. 5,757,455, issued to Sugiyama et al. (hereafter “Sugiyama”).

These rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “an electric field inducing window formed in the passivation layer of said pixel region.” Support for this Amendment is found, for example, in page 9, lines 3-8.

None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention.

The control window 33a, 73a, 33b, 73b of Koma is formed in the common electrode 32, 72 or the display electrode 17, 53 as shown FIGS. 4,5,8,9,12,13,15,16.

But, the electric field inducing window of present invention is formed in the passivation layer of the pixel region. Therefore, Koma does not disclose electric field inducing window formed in the passivation layer of the pixel region.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and claims 3, 20-25, 27-28 and 57, which depend therefrom are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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